



**REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
TUESDAY JULY 13, 2021  
MINUTES**

A meeting of the City Council ("Council") of the Village of The Hills ("the Village") was held remotely. Mayor Wharton called the meeting to order and the roll was called of the duly constituted officers and members of the Council to wit:

Greg Wharton, Mayor  
Hilda Potsavich, Mayor Pro Tem  
Robert Smith, Councilmember, Secretary

Jim Nelson, Councilmember, Treasurer  
Rodney Thompson, Councilmember  
Zac Carroll, Councilmember

**and all said persons were present except Rodney Thompson thus constituting a quorum.**

Also present were Wendy Smith and Linda Lunney, Village of The Hills; Residents Lee Nelson and Gary Weldon, Jim Vick, POA; Sarah Carroll, Park Commission; and Constable Ginnetti.

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Lee Nelson and Jim Vick appeared for public comment.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Minutes of June 8, 2021, Regular Meeting; June 22, 2021, and May 19, 2021, Special Meetings.
2. Finance/Treasurer's Report for June 2021.

Franchise Fees are based on the higher of fees collected statewide, not locally; therefore, the franchise fee may be less than if calculated on local fees collected, accounting for the difference in the anticipated fee received.

*Mayor Pro Tem Potsavich moved approval of the consent agenda with the correction on the June 8<sup>th</sup> minutes of adding Park to Commission under "Budget Workshop"; Councilmember Carroll seconded the motion which carried unanimously.*

## **REPORTS**

### **1. Law Enforcement**

Officer Ginnetti reviewed his written report showing: 7 citations, 16 warnings, 8 selective traffic enforcement, of which 15 were residents, 4 visitors, and 4 contractors.

### **2. Emergency Management**

A monthly report should be available for the next meeting.

### **3. POA Liaison**

Mayor Pro Tem Potsavich presented her written report:

- There have been 17 property conveyances in the last 30 days
- June 30<sup>th</sup> has been set as a completion date for residents to remove dead landscape debris left from the February ice storm.
- New landscape lighting to enhance the Lohmanns and Club Estates gates has been approved.
- The pothole on Hills Drive near Tiburon will be repaired when Alpha is in the area.
- A new stop sign at the Lohmanns Gate entry has been installed.

### **4. MUD Liaison**

Councilmember Smith report that painting the water tower was one of the main items of the recent meeting. The MUD's health insurance is changing carriers and the Board of Directors voted to add vision coverage to MUD employee's health insurance.

### **5. Park Liaison**

Councilmember Smith reported that the landscaping project is progressing. An Eagle Scout will build exercise ramps in the dog park. The Park Commission is taking over the free lending library project.

### **6. City Manager's Report**

Wendy Smith described the safety changes that are being planned for the Lohmann's Crossing crosswalk. She informed the council that the warranty work on the FenceCrete fence will be able to proceed once the MUD makes improvements to the drainage along the fence. It was suggested the POA remind residents to keep the drainage holes in the fence clear of debris.

Ms. Smith reminded everyone of SplashFest this weekend and asked for volunteers.

### **7. Mayor's Report**

Mayor Wharton stated that he would form a committee to overlook technical needs of the city such as the website. He will also prepare a more extensive communication policy.

## **BUSINESS ITEMS**

1. **Consider, and approve the replat of 23 Glen Rock Drive, to be described as Lots 433 and 434, The Hills of Lakeway, Phase Four, a Subdivision of Travis County, Texas.**

The owners of 23 Glen Rock Drive purchased the adjacent vacant lot and have requested to replat to a single lot.

*Councilmember Carroll moved approval of the replat of Lots 433 and 434, The Hills of Lakeway, Phase Four, a Subdivision of Travis County, Texas; Mayor Pro Tem Potsavich seconded the motion which carried unanimously.*

**2. Presentation of survey results by the Parks & Recreation Chairperson**

Sarah Carroll presented the results of the survey. The goal was to learn what is most important to those residents who use the park regularly. The Commission received 193 responses. Everyone thought maintenance was important and listed capital improvements they would like added to the park amenities. Survey responses will be taken into consideration as budgets allow.

**3. Discussion and possible action related to a Parks & Recreation Commission recommendations for improvements and repairs.**

The Commission would like to challenge the community with fundraising to meet some of the costs of items desired in the survey. They will work towards preparing a plan to update the park with the desired items, how much each will cost and how to meet those costs.

**4. Discussion and possible action related to a proposal from TF Harper to replace the park playscapes and fall zones.**

Wendy Smith reviewed the playground design that was recommended to replace the existing playscape and fits within the budget. The design was approved by the Parks & Recreation Commission. A question was brought up as to the material of the shade structure. Final details will be addressed by the Parks & Recreation Commission and City Manager.

*Councilmember Carroll moved approval of up to \$205,000 for the playscape and authorize the city manager to engage TF Harper subject to minor adjustments; Councilmember Smith seconded the motion which carried unanimously.*

**5. Consider and approve an Election Agreement between Travis County and Village of The Hills.**

The agreement with the County is similar to those approved in prior years allowing the City to use Travis County for election services. Costs are not provided until the election is called and is based on the number of entities participating.

*Mayor pro Tem Potsavich moved approval of an Election Agreement between Travis County and Village of The Hills; Councilmember Nelson seconded the motion which carried unanimously.*

**6. Consider and approve an Ordinance of the City Council of the Village of The Hills, Texas, Providing for A General Election to Be Held on November 2, 2021, for the Purpose of Electing Two Councilmembers for Terms of Two Years Each; and Establishing Procedures for the Conduct of Such Election**

*Ordenanza del Concilio de la Ciudad De Village of The Hills, Texas Que Convoca a Una Elección General a Celebrarse el 2 de Noviembre Del 2021, a Efectos de Elegir Dos Concejales que Habrán de Servir Términos de Dos Años Cada Uno*

*Mayor Pro Tem Potsavich moved to approve an Ordinance Providing for an Election; Councilmember Nelson seconded the motion which carried unanimously.*

**7. Discussion and possible action regarding additional law enforcement patrol hours.**

Mayor Wharton discussed the need to have the community patrolled in varying shifts with the addition of two shifts a month. He asked that the constable's report track the hours and shifts worked.

*Mayor Pro Tem Potsavich moved to authorize budget overtime, not to exceed \$5,600 per year; Councilmember Nelson seconded the motion which carried unanimously.*

**8. Discussion and possible action regarding the Austin Energy Franchise Agreement.**

Wendy Smith reported that the current 3% franchise agreement is up for renewal. Asking for an increase to 5% may be passed on to the customer. The Hills is in a block of about 7 local cities and if one renews at an increased rate, all are increased. The council recommended tabling this item until other communities decide. The Mayor asked if there will be a deficit in the area of franchises in the budget and if there is anything to be done without affecting the residents.

**9. Update regarding Walking Trail Project VTH.003 and 003A.**

Ms. Smith advised the council of the letter that went out to affected residents about surveying to be conducted along the planned trail. The project is on track for the bidding process to begin by the end of the year.

**10. Update regarding Greenbelt maintenance.**

Tree trimming, now that we are out of oak wilt season, and mowing continues in the Greenbelts. Both routine maintenance/mitigation and storm recovery are ongoing.

**BUDGET WORKSHOP**

Discussion of the FY 21-22 Budget

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REQUESTS**

- New business items to be included on the next agenda

There were no requested items.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Council went into Executive Session at 10:55 a.m.

*The Mayor and City Council may adjourn into Executive Session at any time during the course of this meeting to discuss any matters listed on the agenda, as authorized by the Texas Government Code including, but not limited to, Sections §441.071 (Consultation with attorney), §551.072 (Deliberations*

*about Real Property), §551.073 (Deliberations about Gifts and Donations), §551.074 (Personnel Matters), §551.076 (Deliberations about Security Devices), §551.087 (Economic Development), §418.183 (Deliberations about Homeland Security Issues), and as authorized by the Texas Tax Code including, but not limited to Section 321.3022 (Sales Tax Information).*

- Consultation regarding the Interlocal Agreement with Hurst Creek MUD and related personnel matters
- Sales Tax Information

The Council came out of Executive Session at 11:10 am

*Councilmember Carroll moved to continue with the Interlocal Agreement with Hurst Creek MUD with revisions discussed in Executive Session; Mayor Pro Tem Potsavich seconded the motion which carried unanimously.*

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:11 a.m.

Signed this <sup>14</sup> September 10<sup>th</sup> day of August 2021.

(Seal)



Greg Wharton, Mayor

Linda Lunney, City Secretary